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cont. described above due to the partial inclusion of the solid type etalon.

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Please AMEND the paragraph beginning at page 12, lines 35-36 as follows:

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B2 wherein: R is reflectance of a reflection coating, n is a refractive index of the gap, d is a physical distance of the gap, and  $\theta$  is an incident angle of light.

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Please AMEND the paragraph beginning at page 14, lines 9-22, as follows:

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B2 In contrast, in the airgap type etalon 1 of this embodiment of the present invention as shown in FIG. 1, Fabry-Perot interference is formed within the airgap between the reflection augmenting coating 3B on the transparent parallel flat plate 3 and the reflection augmenting coating 5B on the transparent flat plate 5. However, this etalon 1 noway includes such a constitution to interpose a gap material between two sheets of flat plates 3 and 5, and rather the transparent parallel flat plate 3 (thickness  $d_1$ , linear expansion coefficient  $\alpha_1$ ) and the parallel flat plate 4 (thickness  $d_2$ , linear expansion coefficient  $\alpha_2$ ) thicker than the plate 3 by "d" are fixed to each other, on the basis of the flat surface of the fixing block 2 as a reference surface so that the airgap length is the difference  $d=d_2-d_1$  between the thickness of the flat plate 3 and the thickness of the flat spacer 4. Thus, even when the airgap length d has been determined by the required optical characteristics, the thicknesses  $d_1$ ,  $d_2$  can be freely varied, and the linear expansion coefficients  $\alpha_1$ ,  $\alpha_2$  of the flat plate 3 and flat spacer 4 serve as design parameters, respectively.

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Please AMEND the paragraph beginning at page 31, lines 17-25, as follows:

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B4 In the wavelength characteristic varying apparatus 30, the temperatures of the optical filters 33A, 33B have been controlled to be the same, by one thermal detector 34 and one thermal controlling element 35. However, it is also possible to separately control the temperatures of the optical filters 33A, 33B, such as by providing the optical filters 33A, 33B with respective thermal detectors and thermal controlling elements. In this situation, airgap type etalons having identical wavelength shift directions can be adapted as the optical filters 33A, 33B such that the temperatures of the optical filters 33A, 33B are controlled in the opposite directions to each other.

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